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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

in the Application of: **HIRASE, Katsunori et al.**

Group Art Unit: 2671

Ser. No.: 09/977,459

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: October 16, 2001

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 3658

For: **IMAGE DATA OUTPUT DEVICE AND RECEIVING DEVICE** RECEIVED

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

JAN 07 2004

Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 5, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached, together with a copy of a European Search Report in a corresponding application filed with the European Patent Office.

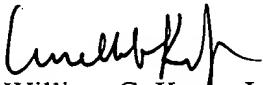
No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,
HANSON & BROOKS, LLP



William G. Kratz, Jr.
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 22,631

WGK/nrp
Atty. Docket No. **011386**
Suite 1000
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: European Search Report
PTO-1449
References (2)